

Application Number 10/533231
Response to the Office Action dated July 14, 2008

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application is requested in view of the following remarks. Claims 1-18 are pending. Claims 19-21 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer.

Claim 1 has been amended to clarify the components of the fluorine-modified silicone resin as supported by the specification at page 9, lines 18-22.

Claims 1, 6, 11, 12, and 14-18 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Yuasa et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,579,653) in view of Nakamura et al. (U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0064724). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

The two-component developer of claim 1 requires a carrier and a toner. The carrier of claim 1 requires a core material whose surface is coated with resin including fluorine-modified silicon resin containing an aminosilane coupling agent. The use of this carrier coated with the fluorine-modified silicon resin containing the aminosilane coupling agent of claim 1 provides advantageous properties of the two-component developer of claim 1 such as durability by increasing coating resin hardness, reducing deterioration of toner-spent, stabilizing charging, less consumption of a toner, and less developing memory, i.e., reducing remaining images in history, when used in combination with a toner containing a particular type of wax of claim 1 (see page 12, lines 7-23 of the specification).

Yuasa discloses a carrier in a developer that has a core material whose surface is coated with resin containing conductive fine powder (coln. 40, lines 1-3) and lists the resin materials used for coating, for example, silicone resins, a mixture of silicon-type resin and acrylic resin, and ambient temperature curing type silicone resin (see coln. 40, line 44 – coln. 41, lines 6). Although Yuasa further teaches use of magnetic fine powder that is added to a black toner to form a magnetic toner and lists an aminosilane coupling agent as one of five alternative coupling agents used for treatment of the surface of the

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